

City of Carlsbad

Citizens' Committee to Study the Flower Fields and Strawberry Fields Area

Summary Notes of Meeting #1

May 16, 2006, 9 a.m. to 12 p.m., City of Carlsbad, 1635 Faraday Avenue, Room 173B

Present:

Committee members: (*non-voting members)

<i>Pete Aadland</i>	<i>Vern Farrow</i>	<i>Kip McBane</i>
<i>Jill Agosti</i>	<i>Bob Garcin</i>	<i>Gina McBride</i>
<i>Jennifer Benner</i>	<i>Courtney Heineman*</i>	<i>Robert Morgan</i>
<i>Chris Calkins*</i>	<i>Gary Hill</i>	<i>Eric Munoz</i>
<i>Nancy Calverley*</i>	<i>Mark Johnson</i>	<i>Peder Norby</i>
<i>Marvin Cap</i>	<i>Pat Kurth</i>	<i>Seth Schulberg</i>
<i>Claudia Carrillo*</i>	<i>Keith Lewinger</i>	<i>Daniel Swiger</i>
<i>Bill Dominguez</i>	<i>Cary Manning</i>	<i>Mark Winkler</i>
<i>Farrah Douglas</i>	<i>Len Martyns</i>	

Present but not officially appointed to the committee until City Council meeting of 5/16/06:

Leslie Meyerhoff
Laura Means Pope

Absent:

*Marvin Sippel**
Heidi Willes

City of Carlsbad Staff:

Gary Barberio – Principal Planner
Karen Chen – Management Analyst
Courtney Enriquez – Management Intern
Cynthia Haas – Economic and Real Estate Manager
Sandra Holder – Community Development Director
Bob Johnson – Deputy City Engineer, Transportation
Barbara Nedros – Administrative Secretary
Mark Steyaert – Park Development Manager
Jane Mobaldi – Assistant City Attorney

Michael Holzmillner – Former City Planning Director, Consultant to City

9 public/other

Facilitators from National Conflict Resolution Center:

Robin Seigle
Lisa Maxwell

Notetaker: Christina Simokat

I. Overview of Purpose: Mayor Pro Tem Matt Hall

- Purpose of this committee is to study the ballot initiatives
- There has been a history of citizen input committees to study growth, open space, trees, sidewalks, and preservation issues.

Goals:

- Review the properties, background and history
- Review ballot measures
- Receive public input with detailed presentations
- Make an objective comparison
- At the end, make recommendations

II. Introductions of Committee Members and Staff: Lisa Maxwell and Robin Seigle (NCRC)

Committee members asked to say their name, their occupation and one sentence about their interest in serving on the committee.

List of committee members' interests in participating in this process:

- History of community
- Objectivity and neutrality of process
- Future of Carlsbad
- Care about city
- Protect and realistic view point
- To voice opinions
- To have a voice in the process and results
- To add to the process
- To serve/give back to the community
- To contribute knowledge, technical expertise
- Strong belief in citizen participation
- Orderly development of city with balance of open space and property rights
- Quality of life
- Preserve and enhance access
- Balance
- Continue excellent city planning
- Opportunity

City of Carlsbad staff asked to say their job and their role with the Committee (see above).

III. Purpose and Scope of Committee:

Sandra Holder, Community Development Director

1. Review background of the properties
2. Review proposed ballot measures
3. Receive public input – including detailed presentations from ballot measure proponents
4. Prepare an independent and objective comparison
5. Other potential recommendations

Six week meeting timeframe

Report out by not later than July 18, 2006

Environmental review (CEQA)

Financial Analysis (9212 report)

IV. Process and Procedures: Robin Seigle and Lisa Maxwell (NCRC)

- There will be two new committee members (noted above) at the next meeting to replace two who resigned.
- Overview of and agreement on NCRC ground rules
- *Question:* Regarding the potential minority report (mentioned by Holder), which would be produced in the event that consensus is not reached. If someone dissents within the group, they will be asked to explain their view. Need to define what will constitute a majority.
- *Comments:*
 - Suggestion to have voting record to determine how much consensus there is. Record to include number of committee members for and against, not names?
 - Try to achieve complete consensus on the report, inclusive of majority and minority views.
 - Could there be more than one minority report?
 - The first product of this committee should be a factual report, not opinion
- *Question:* Is this committee subject to the Brown Act? Yes, Assistant City Attorney Mobaldi answered that this is a meeting, which falls under the Brown Act, and this means that the public is invited to attend these meetings and members of the committee are not allowed to discuss the issues outside of the meetings.
- Conflicts of interest: several members of this committee are ex officio members who will not be voting.
- *Question:* How will this committee's information be used, especially when there are already measures on the ballot? Holzmiller answered, to provide information to the City Council and the public.

Information from these public meetings will be available on the City of Carlsbad website www.carlsbadca.gov/chall

- *Question:* Will this committee be able to affect the wording of the City ballot initiatives? Holzmiller answered that it is possible to still affect the wording of the City's potential initiative.
- *Comments:*
 - We are now setting up to have a minority report when we should be aiming to produce an objective comparison.
 - Some feel there is already too much polarization, and some think that the discussion of consensus is premature and setting them up as *pro* and *con* and is too much pressure.
 - Facilitator explanation: with complete consensus, one person can block it. It is generally helpful to determine the standards for decision making at the beginning, not at the time the decision is being made. Possibilities are: complete consensus, general consensus – those that don't go along with the consensus can do a minority report, voting requiring a majority or some percentage, eg. 60/40, 70/30, 75/25, or other
 - Members of this committee should set aside their personal opinions about the issue for these meetings and analyze the initiatives objectively
 - The committee was convened to advise the city council.
 - The committee was convened to provide a neutral list of pros and cons for each of the initiatives, and that if additional recommendations surface, then those can also be presented to the city council.

Future meeting schedule:

- If a committee member cannot attend a meeting, Barbara Nedros, City of Carlsbad, (760) 602 2710, bnedr@ci.carlsbad.ca.us, can arrange for them to listen to the audio tape. A room will be made available at the City offices

As determined by the Committee, meetings will be as follows:

9 a.m. to 12 p.m. at the City of Carlsbad, 1635 Faraday, Room 173B

Tuesday, May 30, 2006

Tuesday, June 6, 2006

Thursday, June 15, 2006

Tuesday, June 20, 2006

Tuesday, June 27, 2006

July 11 tentatively held as backup meeting

July 18 tentatively held for final work on the report

Election of Chair and Vice Chair:

- *Question:* Can a non-voting member be the Chair/Vice-Chair? Group can decide according to Assistant City Attorney Mobaldi. Group voted no, a non-voting member cannot be a Chair or Vice-Chair.

Non-voting members include: Chris Calkins, Nancy Calverley, Claudia Carrillo, Courtney Heineman and Marvin Sippel.

- *Question:* Are the ex-officio members actually members of the committee? Yes, they are members, but they are non-voting, according to the Assistant City Attorney Mobaldi.

The Committee elected:

Chair: Eric Munoz

Vice-Chair: Kip McBane

V. Notebook Review – Michael Holzmiller

The notebook is available to the public at the Carlsbad libraries, at the Public Counter at the Faraday Center, 1635 Faraday Avenue, the City Manager's Office and each committee member has one.

Status of the existing ballot initiatives

1. *Carlsbad Gateway Parkland and Open Space Initiative of 2006* -- signatures are being gathered
2. *Save the Strawberry and Flower Growing Fields Act of 2006* -- signatures collected and submitted and currently under review
3. *The Flower Fields, Strawberry Fields, Open Space and Public Trails Protection Act of 2006* -- City Council will be looking at that this evening (May 16, 2006).

➤ *Question:* Will the pipeline for the potential desalinization plant be involved in this property on site 4? Holzmiller answered that this will have to be reviewed, but that he believes the pipeline is located in the Cannon Road ROW.

The city does not have coastal permit authority on site 4 so any plan would have to be reviewed by the Coastal Commission.

The city does have permit authority on the Mello II sites. (Sites I, II & III)

All the measures involved will require that the Local Coastal Program be changed, so if any of the ballot initiatives are voted for by the voters, the Coastal Commission will have to review them, and will have the final authority.

Holzmiller noted that citizens' initiatives do not have to go through environmental review, but city initiatives do. Citizen initiatives require signatures, whereas city initiatives do not.

VI. Public Comments

Group decides that public comment will be restricted to 3 minutes, except for presentations.

1. *Ramona Finnila*, coordinator for Carlsbad Citizens for Usable Public Places (CCUPP): CCUPP offers to hold one-on-one study sessions for committee members, requests guidelines for presentations, requests a copy of the notebook, and requests review of state regulation 9212.

2. *Dan Conway*, no group affiliation. Glad to see this process happening. What is the rationale to change the city government center from the Faraday area to the strawberry/flower fields area? Is there a conflict of interest in the city structuring a review process of this site when it will benefit?

3. *Mike Bovenzi*: A previous citizens' committee recommended preserving these areas already. Density caps are being changed and will affect current property owners' use of their land. He requests that all committee members watch city council proceedings this evening.

VI. Committee Member Comments:

- Request that public be able to speak earlier in the meeting rather than at the end of the meetings.
- Another requested that the public comment period be restricted to a maximum of 20 minutes, except for the meeting that focuses on presentations from the proponents of the initiatives and public input.
- SDGE representative requests that their property be referred to as "SDG&E" rather than the "strawberry fields" as that name is misleading and creates an emotional reaction.

Notes prepared by NCRC staff.